IF YOU HAVE A SONG, A THOUGHT, A FEELING, OR ANYTHING KIND YOU WANT TO SHARE, PLEASE DO EMAIL ME.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING SHITTY TO SAY, GO AHEAD, BUT THE FUTURE IS KIND AND WE'RE LEAVING YOU BEHIND.

DO NOT PURCHASE THIS ZINE. IT IS ALWAYS FREE.

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SHARE, COPY, ALTER, STEAL. THIS ZINE BELONGS TO EVERYONE.

#006

ANTI-CAP

MUSIC FOR OUR FUTURE

FEATURING:

JOSEPH TAWADROS • DEPECHE MODE • TUPAC

A WORD ON PROTEST:

"You write a petition... You manage to get 3 million people to sign it... So, why didn't it work? Well, it's because your demand wasn't backed by anything. All you did with those 3 million signatures was ask [insert evildoer here] nicely to stop being evil. They said no, and because your words weren't backed by any action, they could be safely ignored.

Hell, most of the people on the petition didn't even bother boycotting [them]. And this is something in the West many of you still haven't figured out yet. When you protest or petition, that is supposed to be a warning.

Your march through the street is supposed to be a show of force and a declaration that there will be consequences to ignoring the protest. The protest and petition is you telling the corporation or government that this is your last chance to act before we all strike, riot or straight up storm the factories. The solidarity and promise of direct action.

That is your power. Because without that promise of consequences, your petition isn't even worth the paper it's printed on. If your peaceful march or strongly worded petition is the totality of your protest, then you will fail 100% of the time.

And this is also why those in power keep telling you to make your protest respectful and non-disruptive. Because if your protest doesn't disrupt anything, then your protest can be safely ignored. And any protest that can be ignored will be ignored.

But, if your protest comes with the promise that you will shut down every train and port in the country– when your protest comes with the promise that you will block the highways and walk out of every job– When your words are backed with the promise of action, then and only then will they listen to you."

- Triploi

THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS AWW, YEAH

And still I see no changes, can't a brother get a little peace?
It's war on the streets and the war in the Middle East
Instead of war on poverty
They got a war on drugs so the police can bother me
And I ain't never did a crime I ain't have to do
But now I'm back with the facts, givin' it back to you
Don't let 'em jack you up, back you up
Crack you up and pimp-smack you up
You gotta learn to hold your own
They get jealous when they see you with your mobile phone
But tell the cops they can't touch this
I don't trust this, when they try to rush, I bust this
That's the sound of my tool, you say it ain't cool
My mama didn't raise no fool
And as long as I stay black, I gotta stay strapped
And I never get to lay back
'Cause I always got to worry 'bout the payback
Some buck that I roughed up way back
Comin' back after all these years
"Rat-a-tat-tat-tat-tat," that's the way it is

a change
to start makin' some changes
Let's change the way we live
we treat each other
wasn't workin'
we gotta do to survive

THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS THINGS'LL NEVER BE THE SAME

I see no changes, all I see is racist faces
Misplaced hate makes disgrace to races
We under, I wonder what it takes to make this
One better place, let's erase the wasted
Take the evil out the people, they'll be actin' right
'Cause both black and white are smokin' crack tonight
And the only time we chill is when we kill each other
It takes skill to be real, time to heal each other
And although it seems heaven-sent
We ain't ready to see a black president
It ain't a secret, don't conceal the fact
The penitentiary's packed and it's filled with blacks
But some things will never change
Try to show another way, but you stayin' in the dope game
Now tell me, what's a mother to do?
Bein' real don't appeal to the brother in you
You gotta operate the easy way
"I made a G today," but you made it in a sleazy way
Sellin' crack to the kids, "I gotta get paid"
Well hey, well that's the way it is

We gotta make
It's time for us as a people
Let's change the way we eat
And let's change the way
You see, the old way
So it's on us to do what

PROTESTING ISNT GONNA BE ENOUGH

Why Performative Rage Won't Solve Our Problems

01 Protests Expose the Problem, They Don't Fix the System

Protests are like an alarm siren. They draw attention. They signal urgency. They show collective anger and pain but an alarm doesn't put out the fire. Marching in the street doesn't automatically change laws, redistribute resources, or transform institutions.

02 Protests Are Often Short-Term, Problems Are Long-Term

Most protests are a day, a weekend, maybe a few weeks of intense activity.But the systems harming Black & Brown people are centuries old, Designed, funded, and protected by laws, courts, and institutions. If that energy doesn't turn into organizing, policy work, building institutions, and sustained community work then the system just waits it out and returns to normal.

03 Visibility Without Power Is a Trap

Protests bring visibility. The media shows up. Politicians tweet statements. Corporations issue solidarity messages. But visibility doesn't equal power. Without real leverage leaders get invited to panels but don't change policy. Movements get turned into brands. The system listens, says the right words but nothing changes.

04

Protests Can Be Co-Opted

History shows this over and over. Movements start radical, with bold demands. As they gain attention, they get softened, commercialized, or reduced to awareness. Protests can become a pressure release valve. People feel they did something, The system absorbs the shock but the material reality in Black & Brown neighborhoods stays the same.

05

Protests Don't Automatically Address Internal Community Needs

There are internal needs in black & brown communities like healing from trauma and violence, addressing colorism, patriarchy, homophobia, & anti-Blackness, plus the need for conflict resolution. A march can call out injustice, but it doesn't address the intra community systema that are needed that requires slow, patient, everyday attention.

06

Protests Can Give Illusions of Unity

During the protests, it can feel like everyone supports the cause but sometimes people show up for the moment, not the movement. Protests can create a temporary sense of solidarity but real unity is built through shared work, shared risks, and shared long-term commitment.

changes

I see no changes,
Wake up in the morning and I ask myself
Is life worth livin'? Should I blast myself?
I'm tired of bein' poor
And, even worse, I'm black
My stomach hurts so
I'm lookin' for a purse to snatch
Cops give a damn about a negro
Pull the trigger, kill a nigga, he's a hero
"Give the crack to the kids, who the hell cares?
One less hungry mouth on the welfare"
First ship 'em dope and let 'em deal to brothers
Give 'em guns, step back,
Watch 'em kill each other
"It's time to fight back," that's what Huey said
Two shots in the dark, now Huey's dead
I got love for my brother
But we can never go nowhere
Unless we share with each other
We gotta start makin' changes
Learn to see me as a brother
Instead of two distant strangers
And that's how it's supposed to be
How can the Devil take a brother
If he's close to me?
I'd love to go back to when we played as kids
But things change, and that's the way it is

2PAC

*Non-black perspective

TUPAC IS A HOUSEHOLD NAME TODAY, BUT GROWING UP IN THE '90s THEY REPRESENTED THE "DARK SIDE OF RAP MUSIC"... THE GANGTERS, THE THUGS, OR, YOU KNOW... JUST BLACK PEOPLE TRYING TO SURVIVE IN A WORLD THAT DEMANDS THEIR OBEDIENT SUBJUGATION.

I HARBOR SOME RESENTMENT FOR THE ADULTS IN MY LIFE WHO WOULD COAX ME AWAY FROM THIS KIND OF MUSIC FOR ALL THE USUAL REASONS: IT WILL MAKE YOU VIOLENT, IT POISONS YOUR MIND, *WON'T SOMEONE PLEASE THINK OF THE CHILDREN!!!*

IT STANDS OUT AS PRETTY BLATANT RACISM TODAY, BUT BACK THEN IT WAS HERALDED AS SOUND LOGIC.

AS I DIVE DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE LIFE OF TUPAC (THEIR MUSIC, THEIR POLITICS, THEIR BELIEFS...) I AM FURTHER AND FURTHER ASTOUNDED BY THE DEPTHS OF THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SYSTEM IN WHICH WE ALL OPERATE AND BY THE POETRY THAT THEY USE TO EXPLAIN IT.

THEIR LIFE WAS TOO SHORT AND THEIR MESSAGE, THOUGH **LOUD**, WAS NOT HEARD NEARLY WELL ENOUGH. I AM LISTENING NOW.

Protests Without Clear Demands Go Nowhere

07

Power responds to specifics like what law should change? What concrete policy do we want passed? When protests don't have clear demands, a plan for negotiation, and a follow-up strategy, then officials can say "We hear you" and keep doing what they're doing.

- Duron Barima Kweku Chavis

Rielle Pajarito

HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO SIGN A BOMB?
HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO THINK THAT THAT'S NOT WRONG?
HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO WRITE A MESSAGE ON SOME LEAD
WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO DROP IT AND MAKE PEOPLE DEAD?

If you're going to bomb somebody then you better not gloat
Better think about your victim put yourself in their boat
You say that you're moral but you clearly have no heart
Taking joy in destruction, tearing families apart

You've become like the criminals you claim to fight
But killing innocent people, that's just not right
And that is why I think...

EVERYTHING COUNTS

DEPECHE MODE

The handshake seals the contract
From the contract, there's no turning back
The turning point of a career
In Korea being insincere
The holiday was fun-packed
The contract still intact

THE GRABBING HANDS GRAB ALL THEY CAN
ALL FOR THEMSELVES, AFTER ALL
THE GRABBING HANDS GRAB ALL THEY CAN
ALL FOR THEMSELVES, AFTER ALL

IT'S A COMPETITIVE WORLD.
EVERYTHING COUNTS IN LARGE AMOUNTS

The graph on the wall
Tells the story of it all
Picture it now, see just how
The lies and deceit gained a little more power
Confidence taken in
By a suntan and a grin